THE LOGGER'S BARK

Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 11188

Tacoma, WA 98411

JUNE 2006 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays June 14th and 28th at the library Administration building at 7:30 pm, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday June 7th 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

License Testing - Tuesday June 13th, 7:00PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline Sunday June 25th 2006- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

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CLUB MEETINGS: 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Pierce County Library Administration Building, 3005 - 112th Street East, Tacoma, WA

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA REPEATERS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING FREQUENCIES:

147.28 / .88 MHz (PL 103.5)	144.97 - Packet	440.625 / 445.625 (PL 103.5)
147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)		

The R.C.T. Clubhouse is located at 1249 South Washington Street, Tacoma, Washington. Mailing address for all Club business: Post Office Box 11188, Tacoma WA 98411 253-759-2040

Regular Membership Fees for FULL Members, except students, Family Members and Senior Citizens is $30.00 per calendar year. 1st 2 Family Members of the same household will pay $15.00 per calendar year. Full time students, up to and including seniors in college, ½ the fee for Full Membership ($15.00). Membership fee for Senior Citizens (65 and over) is $25.00 per calendar year. Lifetime membership: 20-times the appropriate annual fee.

E-mail all articles & advertising to thebark@comcast.net, or to :Gary McAdams 11405 88th AVE CT SW Lakewood, WA 98498-4109 Commercial Advertising per issue: $60.00 full page, $30 per one-half page, $15.00 per quarter page, Business Cards $5.00. Advertising moneys help offset the costs of publication and mailing. Swap and Wanted Column articles are free to R.C.T. members. *The Logger's Bark* does not verify or guarantee statements in the Swap or Wanted columns. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in *The Logger's Bark* if credit line is included in the report.

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RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

June 2006

Volume 2 Issue 6

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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From The Prez

From The Prez

Now that I've had a little break it is time to get back to the things at hand. There are quite a few events coming up. We have field day and 'DK at the beach this month. I'm looking forward to both of these events. I always have a good time at both.

This year we are having 'DK at the beach at a different location. We decided to try Spanaway Lake Park. I think it will be a good location and it is less expensive. We have planed it for Sunday June 4th. I hope you will have a chance to attend. Larry KD4VOM and his companion Janis will host the event this year. Find more information on our web sight at www.w7dk.org. The club will provide drinks, hot dogs, and burgers. The rest will be a pot luck.

Bring your favorite dish and have lots of fun. This year the theme will be bunny hunting. We recently had a workshop at the clubhouse to learn and build the direction finding antenna known as the tape measure antenna. This workshop was put together by Rich Patrick / KR7W and Chuck Kemmer / AC7QN. From what I heard it went really well. Several members attended and built their antennas. Diane Sim / W7SIM is one of our members that attended and built a tape measure antenna. Her antenna turned out very well, and she brought it to a meeting and showed us. I was very impressed. She will have a chance to put it to use at DK at the beach when we do our bunny hunt.

Then on June 24th and 25th we have field day. Field day is one of our most important events, as it keeps our ability to operate under emergency conditions in good form. It teaches us to set up and operate with emergency power sources and without the help of commercial assistance. If a real emergency occurred all the commercial resources would likely be unavailable. It is also one of the fun-est events we do all year.

Please see Bob KE7DGQ to get your spot reserved. I hope you can all attend. There will be lots of things to do and lots of good food. (A pot luck on Saturday evening). Then later in the summer we have our annual Hamfest. Hamfest is our largest fund raiser and is critical to the well being of our club. I hope everyone plans to help out this year. You can contact Frank Palmer AC7JY with your interests and availability. Please consider helping. Visit our web sight at www.w7dk.org. It is a gold mine of information. (Thanks to Rich Patrick / KR7W). Thanks Rich. 73 de kk7qs.

Get Plugged In

visit your club's website

www.w7dk.org

for the latest news and club activities

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start… First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

1.Technical questions, Classes
2. Help with Code
3. License Examinations
4. Antenna and Station planning
5. Antenna and Tower erection
6. Buying new or used equipment
7. Equipment repair
8. Understanding and operating your equipment
9. DX and Contests
10. Club and ARRL activities
11. Using test equipment
12. IRLP

Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic

Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10

Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3

Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2

Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12

Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11

If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board!

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays June 6th, 13th , 20th & 27th Club Repeater net 147.280
- Board Meeting Wednesday June 7th @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays: that's the 14th & 28th.
- VE Testing at RCT Clubhouse Tuesday June 13th at 7:00 PM.

JUNE 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

EDITORS NOTES...

Hello Again fellow Club members!

This issue of the "Loggers Bark" is the biggest and hopefully one of the best ever! Lots of material was sent this month to your faithful editor.

Because of that, I have to crack the whip a little… Just a little; I promise.!

In future, I must insist that all submissions to the "Bark" be sent in some form of digital media. MS-Word is the default, although ant ANSII text format is also acceptable. Files sent with weird formats that require yours truly to sit here hour after lonely hour– reformatting will be summarily dropped and the offenders shall be called out on the 'DK repeater at dawn!

I prefer that submission be sent to me at g.m.mcadams at comcast dot net or thebark at comcast dot net. Those address's purposely miss-written! Submissions on 3.5 inch floppy or CD also accepted.

Photos should be sent in the normal jpeg format. Try to keep the files size down, but that is not strictly necessary.

Thanks for your submissions and keep them coming!

Until Next month, 73, Gary WG7X

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?

You hold a Mother's Day Breakfast, of course!

Over to the left, we see 'Ol Rubbery Duckery himself Rich Number 7 Awful Nice Food hading out the plates to Worth W7Wg and his XYL Marion.

Down below, we see Rich pontificating to the crowd about various weighty matters, no doubt how and why antennas work at all…

Lower right we see Bob KE7DGQ and XYL. In the corner we have Susan KE7SPS in the blue shirt.

Unfortunately, no ID on the other lovely couple with equally lovely children…

HAPPY Mom's day!!

VE TEAM REPORT

Volunteer Examiner Report

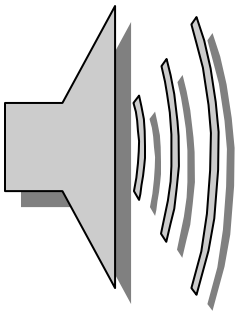
John AC7WW

On May 9th a huge crowd gathered at the Radio Club of Tacoma Clubhouse. After the dust settled down from all the activity, the six VE's in attendance graded all three exams. Only two candidates at the session. Michael KE7HKQ passed his code and element 3 to become a general class and Bruce WB7TVS passed element 4 to become an extra class.

Thanks to Jon AD7AW, Bill AB7WJ, Shirley N7QHW, Tom N7QHX, and Don K7QLC for conducting the session.

Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse … 10 a.m. to 2 p.m….There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) …Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.



Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28 (the W7DK repeater) for the latest news and announcements from the club!

10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375

CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150

2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275

FCC, PILOT TRAVEL CENTERS CONSENT DECREE ENDS TRANSCEIVER MARKETING

A consent decree has finally ended an enforcement action against Pilot Travel Centers LLC that could have cost the company $125,000 in fines.

In November 2004 the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) asserting that Pilot, despite multiple citations and warnings, continued to market CB transceivers labeled as Amateur Radio gear but intended for use on both Citizens Band and amateur frequencies.

An FCC Order released May 11 adopts the attached consent decree between the agency and Pilot and terminates the forfeiture action. While Pilot agrees to make "a voluntary contribution" of $90,000 to the US Treasury "without further protest or recourse," the company does not admit any wrongdoing.

"The parties further agree that this consent decree is for settlement purposes only and that by agreeing to the consent decree, Pilot does not admit or deny any liability for violating the [Communications] Act or the rules in connection with the matters that are the subject of this consent decree," the agreement stipulates.

Under the terms of the consent decree, Pilot must refrain in the future from marketing as "Amateur Radio" gear any transmitting devices with built-in features to facilitate CB operation. The company also must determine in advance that any CB transmitting gear it offers for sale is FCC certificated. CB transmitters must receive FCC certification--formerly called "type acceptance." Amateur Radio transmitting equipment does not require FCC certification.

Should Pilot plan to sell legitimate Amateur Radio transceivers, it must ensure before marketing or selling them that the ARRL Lab has reviewed the equipment in question and determined that it transmits only in the Amateur Radio bands. The ARRL Lab tests equipment both for QST "Product Review" articles as well as for compliance with QST advertising policy, which requires that items offered for sale meet FCC rules.

Further, the consent decree requires Pilot to remove from sale certain Galaxy brand transceivers (models DX33HML, DX66V and DX99V) and any other "Amateur Radio" transceivers that have not passed ARRL Lab muster in the course of product review or advertising compliance testing. Pilot also will have to ensure that any CB transceivers on sale by entities leasing space on its premises are FCC certificated.

The consent decree brings to a close an enforcement action dating back more than six years. In its 2004 NAL, the FCC cited 47 separate instances between 2002 and 2004 when Pilot allegedly had offered for sale various models of non-certificated Galaxy CB transceivers labeled as "amateur radios" that easily could be modified for CB operation.

The Order and the consent decree are on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-53A1.pdf>.

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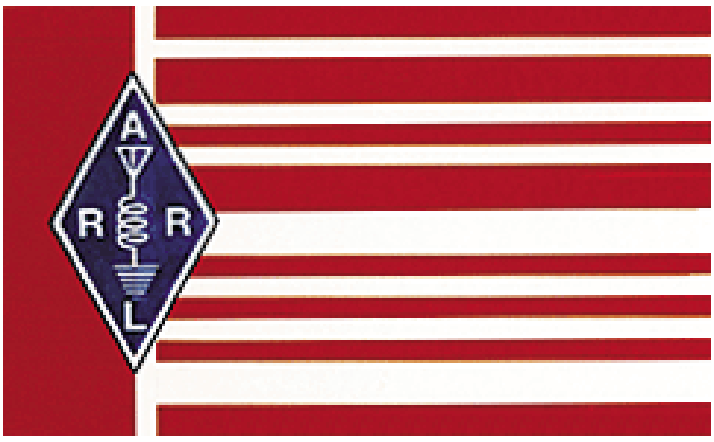

ARRL'S "HELLO" CAMPAIGN A HIT AT NAB, RTNDA CONVENTIONS

When the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) and the Radio-Television News Directors Association (RTNDA) met in Las Vegas for their annual conventions in late April, the ARRL was well represented. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, headed the League contingent. Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and Vice Director Andy Oppel, N6AJO, rounded out the delegation. The presence of thousands of broadcasters offered Pitts an ideal opportunity to promote the ARRL "Hello . . . -- Celebrating 100 Years of Voice over Radio Worldwide" public service announcements. Pitts gauged success on the basis of what he *didn't* end up taking home.

"I carried 60 full 'Hello' press books containing news releases, information and PSAs to the NAB," Pitts said. "At the end of the three days only one was left, and that went to a radio station manager I met in the airport going home." Pitts reports he's been hearing from hams, engineers and radio station managers that the PSAs are airing on cable systems and radio stations. In addition, of the 4500 brochures he took to the convention, he had but 300 left.

The highlight each year for radio amateurs attending the NAB convention is the ham radio operators' reception, sponsored this year by Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound Ltd. Some 2000 radio amateurs with broadcasting industry connections attended the April 26 affair.

The big news at this year's reception was that Heil will be inducted next month into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio. A veteran music industry soundman and sound reinforcement innovator, Heil has worked with some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry, including Chuck Berry, The Who, the Grateful Dead, Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, and ZZ Top.

NAB Vice President of Science and Technology John Marino, KR1O, co-hosted the event. ARRL President Harrison greeted the gathering on behalf of the League and spoke briefly about the changes and challenges Amateur Radio faces in the 21st century.

Charlie Wooten, NF4A, was honored as Clear Channel Communications "National Engineer of the Year," and Heil presented him with a microphone bearing Wooten's call sign. Pitts credits Wooten with getting the "Hello" campaign PSAs on many Clear Channel radio stations.

Pitts said he found a lot of interest in the "Hello" campaign among those attending the broadcasters' gatherings. "But it takes more than just passing out disks to make it on the air," he added. "It takes a personal contact, and that's why we need continued action by our public information officers nationwide."

"But it takes more than just passing out disks to make it on the air," he added. "It takes a personal contact, and that's why we need continued action by our public information officers nationwide."

SUPPLY AND DEMAND: VU4AN ANDAMANS OPERATIONS CREATE A CLAMOR

For several days this month, the tiny Andaman Islands became the DX mouse that roared--well, sort of. Just how loudly depended on your position on the globe and fickle propagation. A first-of-its-kind event, "Hamfest - (VU4) India - 2006," made rare VU4 (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) widely available worldwide April 18-25. With activities centered in Port Blair on South

Andaman Island, more than 100 VU4AN stations made a joyful noise on several modes and bands. Despite the current ebb in the sunspot cycle, many US radio amateurs were able to take advantage.

"They weren't rock-crushingly loud, but they seemed to be making a lot of QSOs in North America," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ--one of the lucky ones. Sumner said he worked VU4 on CW and SSB and noted that some of the stations were spotted quite a lot on RTTY.

Sumner expressed pleasure that one of his QSOs was with Bharathi Prasad, operating as VU4AN/VU2RBI. She led the December 2004 VU4 DXpedition that turned into a disaster-communication operation after being cut short by the devastating South Asia earthquake and tsunami. As a result, Prasad and her team won the 2005 ARRL International Humanitarian Award, and she was named Dayton Hamvention's Radio Amateur of the Year.

Telecommunication authorities in India authorized the issuance of short-term licenses to some 40 Indian nationals and 70 foreigners. While VU4AN signals were dicey or non-existent in some North American locations, many stations in the US and elsewhere were able to add this rare one to their DXCC

total--some on more than one band.

According to The DX Magazine's 2005 survey of DXers, Andaman and Nicobar Islands was the 10th most-wanted DXCC entity. This month's massive operation--sponsored by the National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR)--may have put a dent in the demand. The NIAR offered certificates for stations

working more than four VU4AN stations as well as awards for working the most VU4AN stations in several categories.

In addition to operating, several participants delivered presentations at the NIAR gathering that stressed the positive aspects of Amateur Radio operating as well as various technical topics. The intention was to promote ham radio and to invite more-friendly governmental regulation.

"This VU4-Andaman Islands project took some eight months from start to finish and involved many hours and financial support by members of NIAR," commented QST "Hows DX?" and The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, after returning from the Andamans where he operated as VU4AN/VU3OHA.

"Heavy-duty negotiations between NIAR and the many different government branches took place for this activity to happen." McClenny also reported that there are now two newly licensed hams in Port Blair, Andaman.

Unless otherwise announced for individual stations, VU4AN QSLs go to Jose Jacob, VU2JOS, National Institute of Amateur Radio, 6-3-1092/93, Raj Bhavan

Rd, Somajiguda, Hyderabad 500082 INDIA.

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NON-DELIVERABLE CARD REMAINS IN "QSL LIMBO" FOR 50 YEARS

George Hitz, W1DA, of Sudbury, Massachusetts, can finally account for one of his QSL cards--one he sent in 1956. While a newly licensed teenager living in DeLand, Florida, Hitz, then KN4DPI, fired up his Johnson Viking Adventurer transmitter and made contact with Dave, KN6MSI, on 40 meters.

Like a good operator, Hitz sent off a QSL card, addressed only to "Amateur Radio--KN6NMI, Chief Op Dave, Address Unknown, Riverdale, Calif." This turned out to be David Leaven, later WI6J, who became a Silent Key in 2003.

"I was 14, and like me, Dave was a new ham, and he wasn't in the call book," Hitz told ARRL. "I hoped there would be someone at the Riverdale post office that would know who Dave was, and it would get to him." But Hitz made one mistake: he addressed the card to Riverdale instead of to Dave's actual QTH,

Riverside. That simple error left the card sitting in QSL limbo from 1956 until now.

"In 1956, I was just a Novice operator with a primitive station and even more primitive operating skills," Hitz explained. "Back then, with my radio built from a kit and my BC-348 World War II Army Air Corps surplus receiver and a 60-foot long wire antenna that was 15 feet high, California, was like a whole other country. And I needed that California QSL!"

Hitz had put a return address on his card, but for reasons perhaps best known to the US Postal Service, it finally was returned to his former Florida address in early April. It turned up in the mailbox of Mack McCormick, a non-ham now living in Hitz's childhood home.

"The card apparently has been in the 'Twilight Zone' for 50 years," McCormick said. "It's not wrinkled or anything."

McCormick offered to return the card to Hitz, but Hitz declined. "What would I do with it?" he said. "I understand the guy who found it is going to frame it and place it on his coffee table!"

The story of the long-lost QSL card received worldwide attention. "The press has run wild with this," Hitz said. "I heard this story has been in newspapers in India, Iceland, Ireland--all over the world, over 100 countries! It's almost like I could have DXCC from all the countries that have reported it."

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FCC WON'T SAY PUBLICLY WHEN IT WILL ACT ON MORSE CODE ISSUE

All bets appear to be off as to when the FCC might make a final decision on deleting the Morse code requirement. Last July, an FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235 proposed to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. Most observers expected the Commission to release a Report and Order (R&O) to that effect by the end of this year, but even that timetable could prove optimistic, based on what the Commission will say publicly. Before tackling the Morse proceeding, the FCC wants to wrap up another important Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, the so-called "omnibus" or "phone band expansion" proceeding. Responding to an ARRL inquiry, FCC personnel would not go on the record and declined even to hazard a ballpark guess on when the FCC might act on either Amateur Radio proceeding.

"They're at different points in the process," an FCC staffer said, refraining from saying anything that might suggest a commitment. "One is farther along in the review chain than the other." The staff member indicated that the "omnibus" proceeding is "way ahead" of the Morse proceeding in the WTB pipeline.

The FCC staffers attempted to assure ARRL that the WTB has not been sitting on its hands. "It takes a while to plow through 4000 comments," one said, referring to the huge volume of opinions filed in the Morse docket. "It's not being neglected." The staff member did allow that WTB staff had completed its comment review in the Morse proceeding but wouldn't say when it might see the light of day. "I'd hesitate to say," one staff member demurred. Neither would even say whether the WTB expected to conclude either proceeding by the end of 2006.

"They should probably start learning code," one staffer advised those waiting for the FCC to drop the Morse requirement before upgrading, noting that a Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) for a written exam element is only good for a year. Even after the FCC goes public with its decision on Morse code, still more time is likely to pass before any new rules go into effect, the staff member pointed out.

Earlier this year an WTB staffer, speaking without attribution, told ARRL, "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time. We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Bill Cross, W3TN, the FCC Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division staff member who typically addresses Amateur Radio-related proceedings during Dayton Hamvention's FCC forum, won't be attending this year's show.

When the FCC does act , no one's expecting any major surprises: The Commission appears poised to simply drop the Morse requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes as it proposed last summer. Beyond that, the FCC turned away several other petitions, including proposals to create a new entry-level license class.

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have no impact on either the current HF CW-only subbands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees. Current Technician licensees who have not passed Element 1 will not gain HF access if the FCC drops the Morse requirement.

The "omnibus" Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 04-140, released in April 2004, consolidated a dozen petitions for rulemaking, some dating back to 2001. The Commission has proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice reframing plan aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands to expand portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. The FCC also agreed with an ARRL proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF subbands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit).

Among other things, the FCC also proposed to essentially do away with its rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 12 and 10 meters. And it further proposed to adopt a rule to limit the number of applications a licensee may file on a given day for the same vanity call sign.

Reprinted with permission of ARRL.

"They should probably start learning code"

OREGON RADIO AMATEUR DIES IN TOWER MISHAP

Well-known DXer Ron J. Spears, W7IX, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, died May 14 when an Amateur Radio tower he was working on in Northern California broke and toppled. He was 44.

News accounts say Spears, an ARRL DXCC Honor Roll member (CW), was attempting to retrieve a 40-meter beam from atop a 170-foot tower near MacDoel, California, when the structure collapsed and fell to the ground with Spears still attached by his safety belt. He was pronounced dead at the scene. His father, Aubrey, was assisting on the ground and witnessed the accident.

Spears had built the tower for its previous owner, Ray Balch, K6VX (SK), and used to do all of Balch's antenna work, so he had prior experience working on the structure. According to his father, Spears had first inspected the tower for safety. Spears earlier had bought the antenna from the current property owner and was attempting to bring it down in pieces. The heavy-duty support structure broke as Spears was about 10 feet from the top.

One unofficial report says that when Spears removed the antenna, it slipped and struck one of the top guy wires, starting the tower swaying until the guy broke. Another account says the beam "got away from" Spears and its huge boom struck and broke the tower guy. All but the lower 40 feet of the structure reportedly fell.

In addition to his father, survivors include his mother, Oletta, N7OHO, and a sister. Spears was a member of the ARRL and of the Southern Oregon Amateur Packet Radio Association.--News media reports; The Daily DX; Rod Ingram, WC7N

Reprinted with permission of ARRL

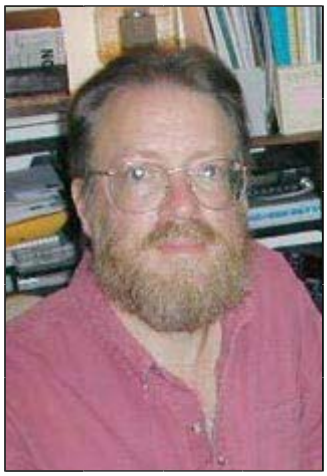
LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD REACHES 100 MILLION QSO MARK

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, has announced that the Logbook of the World (LoTW) now contains more than 100 million individual QSO records.

"With the end of the solar cycle upon us, I think this is just great," Kramer said. "It is exciting to see this level of activity in what is supposed to be a 'dead' period. It is gratifying to see so many people uploading their QSOs, and we hope it continues."

LoTW is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a "QSL" that can be used for ARRL award credit. There have been more than 5.6 million QSO matches since LoTW began operation on September 15, 2003.

CONVERSATIONS FROM THE CONTESTORS RATE SHEET, BY WARD, N0AX



Cross brace Oddity

Originally by David Bowie and rendered unrecognizable by Dr. Beldar.

Ground Control to Climber Tom
Ground Control to Climber Tom
Cinch your climbing belt and put your hard hat on
Ground Control to Climber Tom
Commencing climbing, stepping on
Check your lanyard and may Murphy smile on you

One, two, three, four, five, six,
Seven, eight, nine, ten, topped off

This is Ground Control to Climber Tom
Your gonads are grade A
And the rope crew says to check your under-wear
Now it's time to climb the mast steps if you dare

This is Climber Tom to Ground Control
My arms are really sore
And I'm leaning in a most peculiar way
And the ground looks very very far away
For here I am hanging from a gin pole
Far above the world
SWR is 2
And there's nothing I can do

Though I measure right at fifty ohms
The beam looks very ill
I don't think the signals know which way to go
Tell the boys we'll have to fix it down below

Ground Control to Climber Tom
The pulley's jammed, there's something wrong
Can you hear me, Climber Tom?
Can you hear me, Climber Tom?
Can you hear me, Climber Tom?
Can you....

For here I am hanging from a gin pole
Far above the world
SWR is 2
And there's nothing I can do...

Have a good summer and a safe one, too!

73, Ward N0AX

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JUNE CONTESTS

Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 2
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 3 to 1200Z, Jun 4
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 3 to 1500Z, Jun 4
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 3 to 1459Z, Jun 4
QRP TAC Sprint	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 6
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 9
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Jun 10 to 2400Z, Jun 11
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 10
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 10
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 10 to 1500Z, Jun 11
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 10 to 1600Z, Jun 11
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 10 to 0300Z, Jun 12
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 14 and 0330Z-0530Z, Jun 14
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 14
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 16
SARL Youth Day	0700Z-1100Z, Jun 16
Council of Europe RC 20th Ann. Challenge	0800Z, Jun 16 to 1000Z, Jun 18
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 17 to 2400Z, Jun 18
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 17 to 2400Z, Jun 18
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 17 to 0200Z, Jun 18
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jun 17 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jun 17 (432)
Quebec QSO Party	1700Z, Jun 17 to 0300Z, Jun 18
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jun 17
DIE Contest	0600Z-1200Z, Jun 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 19
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 22
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 23
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 24 to 1200Z, Jun 25
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 24 to 1200Z, Jun 25
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 24 to 2100Z, Jun 25
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 24 to 2100Z, Jun 25
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 30

Board Meeting 3 May, 2006

The 3 May 2006 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS,
Vice President:	Jill Palmer – K7JIL,
Secretary:	Larry Watson -- KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-- KD7TRC,
Board Member:	Frank Palmer -- AC7JY,
Board Member	Gary McAdams -- W7GX
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo -- WV7O
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 5 April 2006 board meeting were approved as corrected.

There followed a discussion of the current process of circulating the minutes by e-mail and making needed corrections that way. The final minutes still require a board approval and signature at the board meetings, but they will have already been corrected and coordinated.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence:

The Secretary circulated the correspondence log for review, and a copy of the current log is attached to the original minutes. The correspondence consisted of financial statements, phone bills and QSL cards.

Annual Safe Inventory: Larry also reported that the annual Club safe inventory is in progress. He is creating a computer indexed inventory of all of the items in the safe as well as scanning in some of the more important items for future protection.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC

The Treasurer provided a verbal monthly financial report.

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached. Income: $910.00, $775.00 of which was from membership dues; April Expenses $ 2027.00 the majority of which was for the Clubhouse property tax.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Jill – K7JIL

Jill announced two new members and noted that renewals still coming in. The pre-filled renewal notices are making renewals much easier; thanks to Rick Rose's (KE7EMW) work. She presented a graphic developed by Rick depicting RCT club membership by age derived from the new Access database capabilities, and noted that Rick was still working on a way to identify and depict whether members reside in rural or city areas.

Station Engineer's Report: Nick Winter – K7MO

Nick reported that all three of the Club laptops now working, checked out, and ready for Field Day. He also advised us that W7DK is now certificated for Logbook of the world. Nick has loaded as many 6071 QSOs, for the time period 2002 -2005. Gary – WG7X is also working on uploading QSOs from our station logs.

Our developing Clubhouse local area network installation has received a donated 24 port Internet Switch and a 16 port patch panel. We still need shielded cat 5 cable to control RF interference.

The Club's FT 847 is repaired and back and will be used

at Field Day this year.

Field Day: Bob Purdom – KE7DGQ

Bob and Nick presented the budget proposal and request for this year's Field Day. Bob has access to the free loan of a very quiet 35 KW Diesel Generator, so we will need Diesel Fuel, which he estimates at around $ 150.00. We may be able to reduce the cost by using off road diesel.

Food cost estimates are based on last years field chef's estimate of $ 250.00

Band Pass Filters – Nick -- K7MO explained the need for two sets of band pass filters and noted that the Club only has one set. In previous years the Club has used Nick's set of band pass filters but he does not expect to be at next year's Field Day and advises the club to purchase the second set. The set of 5 costs $38.00 each plus shipping which comes to $ 225.00

RG 213 cable is needed but the Field Day team will look at alternatives to buying coax for this year's event. Nick noted that the Club did purchase a 500 foot roll a few years ago, but over 250 feet of it was used to relocate the antennas and feed line for our Washington State Fair booth operations, and even then Nick donated around a hundred feet of his own coax. There is some of that purchase left, but most is gone.

Postage expenses are estimated to cost $ 39.00

Stationery and other incidental supplies are estimated at $ 50.00

The total 2006 Field Day proposed budget amounts to $714.13

Discussion: The Field Day Bus brought in $ 344 last year which helps to offset the costs, but does not cover the amount needed. During the discussion, Steve Blacksten offered one of their Screwdriver Antennas to help raise money for field day. The sense of the Board was to raffle the Screwdriver antenna to the membership with all proceeds going to Field Day expenses. Rick – KE7EMW asked if our insurance covered us for injuries at Field Day. We do have liability insurance. There followed a discussion of site itself. The Gun Club site is a great place for us, but a poor site from a radio communications and propagation standpoint. Bob – KE7DGQ noted that the Gun Club has the RCT Field day on its "permanent" schedule. There was discussion about considering other sites in the future, but no decision resulted.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize the expenditure of up to $ 714.00 for the items included in the Field Day budget proposal.

W7DK Picnic at Spanaway: Larry – KD4VOM

Larry presented the budget proposal for the upcoming Picnic. The reservation fee of $ 175.00 was previously approved, and the remaining budget items include: Food, $75.00; Sodas, $ 63.00; Ice, Foil plastic ware, etc. $ 25.00. For a total Picnic budget of $ 313.00

Discussion: We will have the RCT Banner, Brochures and other Club and Amateur Radio promotional material available at the Picnic for possible visitors.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize the expenditure of up to $ 313.00 (including the $150.00 registration fee already approved) for the items included in the W7DK 2006 Picnic budget.

90th Anniversary Planning: Larry – KD4VOM reported that we had a productive meeting with Lee Barker KE7FCX, who operates an Audio and Video installation and recording service. We had planned to conduct video interviews with 15 to 20 members to create a sort of video history. During our meeting this initiative grew into the potential of becoming a Radio Club of Tacoma Documentary. Peter – AD7EW reported that he is researching locations for the "Homecoming" and had visited the Knights of Pythias located in downtown Tacoma.

Planning Team Report: Larry – KD4VOM

The Financial Review Team has been appointed, and had their first meeting on 27 April. They meet again tomorrow night. Paul Leblanc – K7AXJ will be making appointments with Frank Palmer AC7JY and John Clarke – AC7WW to accomplish the review of the Hamfair and VE accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vehicle Donation: Nick – KK7QS asked how the paperwork on the vehicle donation was going. Pat – KD7TRC responded that we have finally received the IRS forms needed to make the final filing.

Standing Rules Amendment: Larry – KD4VOM noted that the hour was late and the unfinished business of amending the Standing Rules to accommodate the New Member free membership and Pro-Rata dues could wait until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Facility Maintenance and Repair: Steve Blacksten—KD7UBE

Steve noted that two 48" fluorescent lights upstairs were out, the back door needs a threshold and sweep and the handicapped ramp cover is peeling back and needs to be re-secured. Steve estimated the cost of these repairs at less than $ 30.00 and agreed to do the work needed. It was also noted that if the lights weren't replaced the ballast would go and that's more expensive. During the discussion it was pointed out that we (the Club as a whole) still have not managed to develop an annual budget and plan. The result is that we keep reacting to whatever pops up, and without any long term context or ability to plan or prioritize our expenses.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to spend up to $ 30.00 for the repairs and supplies identified by Steve.

GSA Surplus Store registration: Larry – KD4VOM

Larry recommended we register the RCT as a nonprofit with the GSA Surplus Store in Auburn.

Discussion: The GSA Surplus Store has great potential to meet club needs at very good prices. And, as a non profit corporation, we don't have to pay taxes. We also gain preview access to available items before the public at large. The Club would develop a list of needed items and acceptable costs for those items – approved by the board. If or when a needed item comes up the team could secure the item and notify the board for a purchase decision.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to register the Radio Club of Tacoma as a nonprofit corporation with the GSA Surplus Store.

An Action was also assigned to the Planning Team to develop a surplus property procedure which will provide the process and controls needed to manage our control and use of the GSA surplus purchases...

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Scout Jamboree: Steve Blacksten –KD7UBE invited all to attend the Scout Jamboree at Fort Lewis this weekend. He is setting up the RCT Station Friday evening and will be open for business with the Scouts for the weekend. He is taking club brochures, Hamfair Flyers and other promotional material to make available to the Scouts and visitors.

Officers and Board Member Distribution Box: Larry – KD4VOM noted that there is now a distribution box in the Lou Simmons (PSK 31 room). Larry will distribute mail and other items through that system (unless a meeting is coming up soon) in order to speed delivery of the mail. He maintains a correspondence log as well to document our incoming and outgoing mail.

Area 7 QSO Party: Nick – K7MO announced that there is an area 7 QSO party this Saturday from 6 am till midnight.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

The Club Copy Machine is out of commission

Mick – KK7QS advised us that the Developer unit is gone, and he estimates the repair cost at around $ 150.00. Mick was uncertain if we would be able to find the part to repair the automatic sorter on the machine which has been out of commission for a long time.

Discussion: A question was raised about the possibility and cost of replacing the old machine with one of similar capabilities but newer. Mick estimates the cost to be in the range of $ 2,000.00 to $ 3,000.00. It is something we would have to go to the membership for funds for. The copy machine is heavily used, for training materials, VE testing support, club manuals and documents, Hamfair Flyers, the Club Brochure, Board document copying, Bark copying for those not able to get it online, Membership registration forms, etc., etc. The current machine was purchased for $1200.00 and those funds were raised from membership donations prior to the purchase.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to spend up to $ 150.00 to repair the copy machine.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm

A few more Mother's day photo's. Up at the right, we see Mike, KB7ZDR cooking what would appear to be scrambled eggs. Mike likes to cook those eggs!

Bottom from left, we see Rich N7ANF, Bob KD7ECQ, Mick KK7QS and Susan KE7SPS. Everyone seems alwfully interested in those flapjacks that Bob is cooking up!

General Meeting MINUTES

26 April, 2006

The 26 April 2006 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Vice President Jill Palmer – K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President:	Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary:	Larry Watson --KD4VOM
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter --KD7TRC
Board Member:	Frank Palmer--AC7JY
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo -- WV7O

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Jill, K7JIL

INTRODUCTIONS: Self introductions were completed.

Illness or Silent Key: Jill reported on the passing of two long time members; Harry Ball, W7HHP, RCT # 245 and Rene Smith RCT # 409 (Honorary Member).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Jill Palmer – K7JIL

Jill delivered Nametag Badges

Field Day: Bob Purdom – KE7DGQ

Bob reminded us that Field Day (June 24th and 25th) planning was moving right along and handed out sign up sheets of needed help and solicited volunteers for those jobs.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter – K7MO

Tonight's program was presented by hizzhonor Nick. The topic was working 160 meters and specifically the characteristics of that band – QRM -- Most of the presentation was devoted to the various types of antennas, especially receive antennas designed to reduce noise. The Beverage, K9AY and others were described as well as the various electronic techniques of feeding them. Several systems permit lobe pattern switching feed line isolation and Nick brought along several commercial and homebrew control systems designed to facilitate operations on the band. He recommended **200 Meters & Down**

-- **The Story of Amateur Radio** by Clinton B. Desoto, available through the ARRL library catalog.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Scout Jamboree: Steve Blacksten KD7UBE reminded the club that we are supporting the Scouts on 5 6 and 7 May. Help is welcome Friday night to setup and of course any day to assist with the various Scout merit badge and amateur radio familiarization activities.

Mother's Day Potluck: Jill – K7JIL asked if Rich was considering the annual Mother's Day Potluck.

Field Day T-Shirts and Pins: Larry announced that the club is taking orders for this Year's Field Day T Shirts and Pins. All shirts and pins will be prepaid. The roster will be available for the next couple of meetings and then the order submitted. Order Roster is at the Books Table.

W7DK Picnic: Larry –KD7VOM reminded folks that the annual W7DK picnic is coming up on 4 June at Spanaway Lake Park. A handful of initial flyers are on the check in table. As usual, the Club will provide frankfurters, buns and sodas. You bring your favorite picnic potluck item, salads, beans, deserts, etc. This year we are planning a "Bunny" (transmitter) hunt. Rich Patrick KR7W and Chuck Kemmer – AC7QN are hosting a build it yourself workshop for up to 10 folks to build their own tape measure Yagi type antennas and attenuators for the hunt. The workshops will be held on Sunday afternoon May 7th and Monday evening May 8th. Detailed information and parts/tools needs are available on the website http://www.w7dk.org/ . Rich demonstrated the Tape measure Yagi and attenuator with a propositioned "bunny".

Door Prize won by:

An ARRL Antenna Compendium/Al Churchill AC7BU

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2006

The May 10 monthly membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

Officers and Board Members present:

President:	Mick Pier – KK7QS
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC
Board Member:	Roddney Saucedo – WV7O
Board Member:	Peter Baker – AD7EU

No sign-in sheet available. Welcoming committee not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President, Mick Pier.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: None reported.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE Report: John Clarke AC7WW

John reported on the May 10 VE testing session at the Radio Club of Tacoma clubhouse. There were 3 candidates and 6 VE's to conduct the session.

Training: Steve Morton AD7AB

Steve reported that the next weekend Technician Class at the clubhouse will be June 10-11.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Field Day: Bob Purdom KE7DGQ

Chairman Bob announced that Field Day will be June 24-25 with set up on Friday, June 23. He has sign-up sheets available and many volunteers for all activities are still needed.

Field Day Shirts and Pins: orders are being taken for shirts ($15) and pins ($6). Please have your orders and money in by May 25.

RCT Generators: Chuck Kemmer AC7QN

Chuck announced that the generators will be run this Saturday, May 13th. He will replace the batteries and load test and anyone interested is invited to attend.

Mother's Day Breakfast: Rich Manson N7ANF

Rich announced that the annual Mother's Day breakfast at the RCT clubhouse will be May 21st from 8 AM until 12 noon. It is free but donations are always welcome.

Log Book of the World: Nick Winter K7MO

W7DK's electronic logs have been loaded into the Log Book of the World by Nick. Manual entries are currently being loaded by Gary McAdams, WG7X. Anyone interested in helping, please let Gary or Nick know.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter K7MO

Nick introduced the basics of Field Day; its history, current rules per the ARRL, logging software, and current planning. Last years slide show was also shown. Good work!!!

DISCUSSION

Diane Sim, W7SIM, showed the members the "bunny hunting" antenna she built at the club's "build-it" class which was held last Sun-Mon. Its SWR is 1.4-1. Good work, Diane.

Al Churchill, AC7BU, reminded the members that one of the RCT's towers is still being temporarily stored in his backyard. Someone again mentioned that perhaps that should be brought to the clubhouse.

DOOR PRIZE:

None available this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

May 24, 2006

The May 24th monthly membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. President Mick Pier, KK7QS, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and Board Members present:

President:	Mick Pier-KK7QS
Vice-President:	Jill Palmer-K7JIL
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC
Board Member:	Frank Palmer-AC7JY
Board Member:	Peter Baker-AD7EU

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President, Mick Pier.

INTRODUCTIONS

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: None reported.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None reported.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve, AD7AB, announced that the last Technician class using the current "Now You're Talking" will be June 10-11. Next class will be in October with the new addition of "Now You're Talking."

Jill, K7JIL, announced that she has turned over the membership committee duties to Rick Rose, KE7EMW. She will remain responsible but Rick will perform the duties.

Bob, KE7DGQ, announced the progress with Field Day scheduling. It is going well and is on track. They plan to visit the sight this Friday to map layout.

Frank, AC7JY, announced an upcoming meeting to Hamfest planning.

Mick, KK7QS, announced that the clubhouse copier is repaired and working. Still no sorter.

Mick also announced a reminder for DK at the Beach and reminded everyone of the change of location this year.

Rich, N7ANF, thanked everyone for their participation of the Mother's Day breakfast and thanked those that helped prepare the food. Approximately 40 people attended.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter K7MO

Nick introduced Scott Honaker, N7SS. Scott gave a very informative presentation about the Pacific NW VHF Society; how to join, what they do, antennas, equipment setups. The VHF Enterprise-II vehicle was also in the parking lot for all to tour.

DISCUSSION:

Steve, KD7UBE, Alan, W7AML, Rich, N7ANF, and Morrie, KD7UGE, gave a rousing edition of "Ode to Duct Tape Bill". (Don't quit the day job, fellas…)

HINTS AND KINKS:

Rick Rose mentioned that the Radio Shack on 72nd was closing and some good deals could be had.

DOOR PRIZE:

Charles, KD7UAN, was the winner of a ham hat certificate from HOTPRESS.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

W7DK PACKET SYSTEM

The W7DK packet system is up and running. ***Please spread the word!***

Our packet system runs 1200 baud AX.25 on 144.97 mhz. As the result of

recent upgrades to a SuSE Linux based package, our club now enjoys many new and wonderful packet capabilities. All are encouraged to give this a try.

Feel free to ask questions of your System Operator. He will be glad to help in any way possible. W7DK packet systems are open to everyone, whether you belong to the club or not.

There are two nodes supporting our system. They run in tandem and provide many unique capabilities. There is the linux-based **Netrom-Style node** that provides basic functions:

Connect to TAC or W7DK-5 and you will see a logon screen similar to this:

TAC:W7DK-5} using URONode v0.6.3

Radio Club of Tacoma - W7DK / W7OS

Short Command List:

BBS = Full Service FBB BBS

Callbook = Online USA Callbook

Convers = Worldwide Converse Server

D = Flexnet Destinations

DXC = DX Cluster Node

Telpac = Exchange email via Winlink 2000 Telpac Node

XNET = TAC / W7DK-8 (X)net Node

Type ? for the full command list. Help<command name> for help with an individual command.

Escape is: CTRL-T

Last login: Sat May 27 01:03:27

From: 127.0.0.1

TAC:W7DK-5} Welcome.

Then there is the more advanced linux-based node called **(X)net**. It too provides its own set of unique and useful features:

Connect to RCT or W7DK-8 and you will see a logon screen like this:

Welcome to RCT / W7DK-8 - (X)NET in Tacoma, WA, USA - CN87SF

To reach 'LOCAL' RF nodes, type C W7DK-5...

For 'LOCAL' Converse Node, type CONVERS

D = Flexnet Destinations

H = Help

L = Links

N = Netrom Node List

Q = Quit

(X)NET/LINUX V1.38

=>

GENERAL INFORMATION

As you can see, upon connection, you will be presented with a short help screen that gives you somewhere to start. There are more commands and they can be displayed by typing:

? or **HELP** on a line by itself. ***DON'T FORGET:***

ALL COMMANDS MUST BE FOLLOWED BY 'ENTER' OR 'CARRIAGE RETURN / LINE FEED'.

To reach the **W7DK packet BBS**, you can connect directly to DKBBS or W7DK on **144.97** MHz. Similarly, you can be connected to node TAC / W7DK-5 and type BBS. Either way will work.

Some of the more interesting features of our packet system are **TELPAC, (DXC)luster, CALLBOOK, and CONVERS:**

The linux-based **TELPAC** node allows you to send and receive email from your packet station. When connected to W7DK-5 or W7DK-8, simply type TELPAC and you will be connected to a Winlink 2000 email server. You may now originate or read email. If you are not connected to either of the nodes, connect to W7DK-4 to reach the TELPAC node.

For the DX'er or contester types, a wealth of information is

available on your local **DX Cluster Spotting Node**, which is K7EK-1 in Spanaway. It is only a few keystrokes away. First connect to TAC or W7DK-5. Then type **DXC**. You will be prompted for a LOGIN. Enter your bona fide amateur radio callsign and you are off and running. You should begin to see DX spots or announcements flowing almost immediately. Feel free to stay connected 24/7 so you won't miss out on that next rare station or band opening. The command structure for my DX Spider Software merits its own separate article so won't be covered too deeply here.

By the way, K7EK-1 can be reached on the internet via telnet using an appropriate client program. Contact your system operator for specifics.

A online **CALLBOOK** that is updated daily by the FCC is available to look up **USA call signs**. Connect first to TAC or W7DK-5. Then type **CALLBOOK**. You will see something like this:

TAC:W7DK-5} Connected to 144.167.99.66

Welcome to the UALR Callsign Database.

Type HELP or help for HELP.

BYE, bye, QUIT or quit when finished.

You may need to enable local echo on your end.

Sample usage: CALL WA5LRU or call wa5lru

LOOKUP>

Upon receipt of the LOOKUP> prompt, simply type in the callsign you desire to look up and hit enter. If it is valid, you will see the most current information on your screen. To leave the CALLBOOK, type EXIT or BYE or QUIT.

We have at our disposal a **WORLDWIDE** chat or **CONVERS** server, which is great for nets or round tables. Similarly, there is a local version of CONVERS which will be explained later. For Worldwide Converse, connect first to TAC or W7DK-5. Then type **CONVERS**. You will be shown a screen like this, prompting you to log in:

TAC:W7DK-5} Connected to 67.160.27.199

*

* K7EK's Converse Server, located in Spanaway, WA, USA (CN87TB)

* Access to channel 0 has been removed from this server.

*

* You must first log in with /N CALLSIGN - Use /H for Help

*

*

Type **/N YOURCALLSIGN** and hit enter. You are now logged in. Depending on current connectivity of the server, you may see many other stations using other channels. Use the /H command for help.

The **LOCAL CONVERS** server is reached by first connecting to RCT or W7DK-8 and then typing **CONVERS**. You will automatically be logged in. The command structure is similar to that on the WORLDWIDE CONVERS server. All commands begin with **/**. To get help, type /HELP.

There are other cool features available on our packet system. I have discussed only the most important ones thus far. As stated previously, if you need help, please do not hesitate to ask. If I cannot help you personally, I will find someone that can. You can reach me by email: **gary.k7ek@gmail.com**, or telephonically: **(253) 691-6159**.

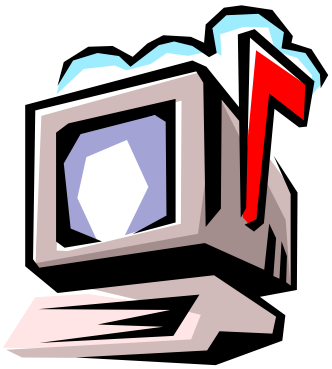
Thanks for reading, and happy packeting!

Best regards,

Gary E. Kohtala - K7EK

W7DK Packet System Operator and

Digital Committee Chairman



New RCT Email System

The Membership Committee has begun sending email notifications to club members for various topics, such as…

- Administrative
- Meeting Reminders
- BARK Notifications
- Club Activity Promotions
- Announcements from Other Members

These emails are sent out from the address: RCT-Membership@comcast.net. If you have not already done so, please check to make sure that your ham-filter uh, I mean spam-filter is not trapping these important club announcements.

Several emails were sent out during the last month. If you did not receive them, you might also want to check with Rick – KE7EMW to make sure that we have your email address on file – we are missing several and would appreciate your help to make sure we have your up-to-date information. The simplest way to update your email information would be to send an email to…

RCT-Membership@comcast.net.

At the bottom of each club email, you will find a thorough explanation of each of the different email categories. You may update your preferences as to which kinds of emails you would like to receive by sending an email to the address above. The first category (Administrative) is not optional. We sincerely hope that you find these emails interesting and informative, but you my opt-out of any of the remaining 4 categories if you so desire.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY!!!

Day	Name	Call	RCT Number
2	Anna Winter	K7ANA	2228
2	Bob Vandenheuvel	KE7ECQ	2281
2	Bruce Mackey	KD7UAQ	2180
2	Gary McFadden	K7UPG	2197
2	John Arena	KB7TGE	1588
3	AL Churchill	AC7BU	1988
5	Lee Barker	KE7FCX	2278
6	Heidi Holme		2274
6	Roddney Saucedo	WV7O	2156
8	Andrew Evancho	WA7JGO	2081
14	Nick Olson	N7BCV	692
17	Dennis Carroll	KB7WFV	1639
17	Herb Young	KB7SRN	2204
18	Mike Wingren	KD7QBF	2144
20	Chris Jensen	W7YX	623
21	Wade Palmer	WA7OHG	1783
23	Larry Alvar	KD7TQW	2171
25	Kathleen Nace	N0EYK	1352
26	Gary Pankey	KE7ETD	2277
27	Richard Ryan	W7RGD	310
27	Scott Peterson	KA7IOX	982
29	Steve Russman	WB7WUX	870
31	Mary Kelley	W7SKR	317

Day	Full Name Familiar	Call	RCT Number
1	Roy Myers	**WA7UZL**	696
1	William Childers	**KD7NJV**	2124
5	Paul Jones	**AC7UJ**	2168
7	Nick Winter	**K7MO**	640
10	Garfield Klinger	**KC7LZL**	2053
12	Harry Adams	**KE7FLM**	2275
12	Willard Barth	**WA7LRQ**	2262
13	Angela Poore	**KC7EQ**	883
14	Bob Pensworth	**KC7HIR**	1962
14	Thomas Murphy	**N7QHX**	1370
14	William Jonez	**AB7WJ**	2049
16	King Davis	**KE7ASO**	2260
16	Stan Young	**KA7RBY**	2289
20	Robert Osborne	**KC7ZLH**	1999
20	Roger Holme	**KE7EMV**	2248
21	Don Hatlestad	**AC7FA**	2296
21	Roger Nace	**K8RN**	406
23	George Wood	**KA7HGE**	2058
23	Harry Howell	**KB7WYO**	1957
23	Mark Rader	**KC7AFO**	1662

Continued, next page!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

23	Q Cinq-Mars	**N7WMH**	1995
24	Shirley Murphy	**N7QHW**	1371
25	Grace Teitzel	**AD7S**	827
25	Lou Metz	**KC7VUM**	1977
25	Rich Salvin	**KE7EHE**	2271
27	Norm Hoppe	**K7DCN**	1735
28	Del Newhouse	**KD7HYU**	2059
28	Randy Hanson	**N7HNX**	1164
28	Robert Hewlett	**N7NCP**	1316
30	Cal Morgan	**W7SFT**	905

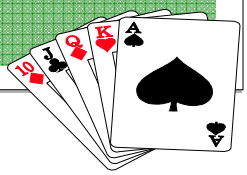
PINOCHLE & POTLUCK

See you at the clubhouse

Saturday June 3rd 6:30 P.M.

For more info call: 759-4898

Jack, WA7ENB & Marilyn Moore



Presented here are a few pictures of club member Stan Young's mower-mobile!

This is a dual band hand held mounted on a Cub Cadet riding mower…

And you thought you were the ONLY slightly carried away one in the club!?

Stan's comments below right…

I have a feeling that I am not the first to go lawn mower mobile, But thought the club might get a kick out of it anyway.

I intended this to be a temporary install, but after spending an hour or so to the project I have decided to keep it on board.

Technical info on this project:

Alinco DJ580 dual band

MFJ dual band 1/4 wave mag mount

Radio Shack speaker mic

System power 12 volts 15 amps

Happy mowing

Stan Young KA7RBY

Scout Jamboree with W7DK!

Steve, KD7UBE chats with the scouts.

Scout festival May 6-7 was an event attended by about 2500 Cub Scout ,Boy Scouts and Troop leaders. Saturday was the big day for the scouts to visit the demonstrations put on by various vendors and we had groups of four to eight scouts at a time visiting the W7DK tent. Usually, they were accompanied by their Troop leader. Some were given the opportunity to talk on the radio to Amateur stations around Washington state, most notably Al AC7BU and Russ W7ILC. These fellows did an admirable job of talking to the scouts.

All told, about 125 scouts visited the W7DK tent. Our station consisted of an Icom 746 Pro and a trap dipole. The station had been set up the previous day, with Hal, W7EC using the infamous potato gun to get the antenna supports into the trees. Then, Worth W7WG and his daughter set up the equally infamous "German" tent: veteran of many a W7DK field day!

Continued next page.

Anyone who has attended a W7DK field day lately will recognize that tent!

Worth and his helper then put up the "EZUP" shelter you see in the picture. Somewhere up above are the two antennas used for this outing!

Saturday, Steve, Worth and the scouts participated in a QSO party and actually worked some DX! Rumor has it that Italy was heard and worked by Bob KE7DGQ! Bob came out Saturday afternoon after calling at W7Dk and gave Worth and Steve a much needed break. (In addition to working the aforementioned DX!)

Kudos all around to the W7DK crew and the scouts who visited and participated!

A couple more pictures on the next page.

DE Steve, KD7UBE

Here we see Worth, W7WG and the old "German tent!

A few of the many scouts who came to visit. Don't look so serious boys!